



NEWS RELEASE

**STATE BOARD
OF EQUALIZATION**

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Sacramento
California 95814

JOHN CHIANG
Chairman, BOE

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Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CHIANG REMINDS TAX AMNESTY PARTICIPANTS
OF FINAL PROGRAM DEADLINES**

John Chiang, Chairman of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), today reminded California taxpayers participating in the Tax Amnesty program of the May 31, 2005 deadline to pay the tax and interest in full or enter into an installment payment agreement. May 31 is also the final day to file any necessary returns for the Amnesty program.

"It's now time for those wishing to reap the benefits of the program to finish the process, file any needed returns, and take care of the payments," said Chairman Chiang.

The BOE is mailing letters to all program participants with instructions for those who still need to meet some of the program's requirements. The Amnesty program allows taxpayers to enter into installment payment agreements as long as the tax and interest is paid in full by June 30, 2006. The deadline to apply for amnesty passed on March 31, 2005.

"We're in the final leg of the program, but we've already exceeded all expectations," Chiang added. The BOE has received over 11,400 Amnesty applications, and \$165 million in Amnesty payments. The BOE's program was only expected to bring in \$115 million over a two-year period.

The BOE's Amnesty program applies to sales and use taxes for tax reporting periods that began in years 2002 or earlier. Taxpayers can visit www.boe.ca.gov for more information on the program.

Chairman John Chiang, of Los Angeles, was elected to his first term as Fourth District Member on the State Board of Equalization in 1998, and re-elected in 2002. He was named Chair of the Board in December 2004. He also presided as Chair in 2002.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects more than \$44 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It also acts as the appellate body for business tax appeals, franchise and personal income tax appeals, and plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property tax.

Other Board Members include Betty T. Yee of San Francisco, Acting Member, First District; Bill Leonard of Sacramento/Ontario, Second District; Claude Parrish of Long Beach, Third District and State Controller Steve Westly.

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